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PERIODS OF AUTOMORPHIC FORMS: THE CASE OF $(\mathrm{GL}_{n+1} \times \mathrm{GL}_n, \mathrm{GL}_n)$

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This note is a report on a joint work with Shunsuke Yamana [2]. Details will appear elsewhere.

Let G be a connected reductive algebraic group over a number field F and G' a closed subgroup of G over F . Let $\mathcal{A}(G)$ and $\mathcal{A}(G')$ denote the spaces of automorphic forms on $G(\mathbb{A})$ and $G'(\mathbb{A})$ respectively. We will consider the period integral

$$\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi') := \int_{G'(F) \backslash G'(\mathbb{A})} \varphi(g) \varphi'(g) dg$$

for $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ and $\varphi' \in \mathcal{A}(G')$. Let $\pi \subset \mathcal{A}(G)$ and $\pi' \subset \mathcal{A}(G')$ be irreducible subrepresentations. If $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi')$ converges for all $\varphi \in \pi$ and $\varphi' \in \pi'$, then

$$\mathbf{P}^{G'}|_{\pi \otimes \pi'} \in \mathrm{Hom}_{\Delta G'(\mathbb{A})}(\pi \otimes \pi', \mathbb{C}).$$

We say that $\pi \otimes \pi'$ is $\Delta G'$ -distinguished (with respect to $\mathbf{P}^{G'}$) if $\mathbf{P}^{G'}|_{\pi \otimes \pi'} \neq 0$.

In this note, we consider the case $G = \mathrm{GL}_{n+1}$ and $G' = \mathrm{GL}_n$, which was studied by Jacquet, Piatetski-Shapiro and Shalika.

Theorem 1 (Jacquet-Piatetski-Shapiro-Shalika). *If $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G)$ and $\varphi' \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G')$, then*

$$\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi'_s) = I(s, \varphi, \varphi') := \int_{N'(F) \backslash N'(\mathbb{A})} W^\psi(g, \varphi) \overline{W^{\bar{\psi}}(g, \varphi')} |\det g|^s dg.$$

Here, $\mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G)$ and $\mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G')$ denote the spaces of cusp forms on $G(\mathbb{A})$ and $G'(\mathbb{A})$ respectively, $\varphi'_s = \varphi' \cdot |\det|^s$ for $s \in \mathbb{C}$, $N \subset G$ and $N' \subset G'$ are upper triangular unipotent subgroups, $W^\psi(g, \varphi)$ is a Whittaker function (with respect to a nontrivial character ψ of $F \backslash \mathbb{A}$) defined by

$$W^\psi(g, \varphi) = \int_{N(F) \backslash N(\mathbb{A})} \varphi(ug) \overline{\psi(u_{1,2} + u_{2,3} + \cdots + u_{n,n+1})} du$$

and $W^{\bar{\psi}}(g, \varphi')$ is defined similarly. The left-hand side converges for all s and the right-hand side converges for $\Re s \gg 0$. Moreover, if $\varphi =$

$\otimes_v \varphi_v \in \pi \subset \mathcal{A}^{\text{cusp}}(G)$ and $\varphi' = \otimes_v \varphi'_v \in \pi' \subset \mathcal{A}^{\text{cusp}}(G')$, then

$$I(s, \varphi, \varphi') = L\left(s + \frac{1}{2}, \pi \times \pi'\right) \prod_v \frac{I(s, W_{\varphi_v}^{\psi_v}, W_{\varphi'_v}^{\bar{\psi}_v})}{L\left(s + \frac{1}{2}, \pi_v \times \pi'_v\right)}.$$

In particular, $\pi \otimes \pi'$ is $\Delta G'$ -distinguished if and only if

$$L\left(\frac{1}{2}, \pi \times \pi'\right) \neq 0.$$

The last assertion is a special case of the Gan-Gross-Prasad conjecture [1]. We also remark that $I(s, \varphi, \varphi')$ makes sense for any automorphic forms φ and φ' . Our main result is an extension of the above theorem.

Theorem 2 (I-Yamana). *Let $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}(G)$ and $\varphi' \in \mathcal{A}(G')$. Then*

$$\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi'_s) = I(s, \varphi, \varphi')$$

as meromorphic functions of s . Here, $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}$ is the regularized period integral defined below.

As immediate consequences, we obtain the following corollaries.

Corollary 3.

- (1) $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}$ is $\Delta G'(\mathbb{A})$ -invariant.
- (2) $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi'_s) = 0$ unless φ and φ' are generic.

Corollary 4. Assume that π and π' are induced from irreducible cuspidal automorphic representations of Levi subgroups of G and G' respectively. Then $\pi \otimes \pi'$ is $\Delta G'$ -distinguished (with respect to $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}$) if and only if

$$L\left(\frac{1}{2}, \pi \times \pi'\right) \neq 0.$$

Corollary 5. Let $\varphi \in \pi \subset \mathcal{A}^{\text{disc}}(G)$ and $\varphi' \in \pi' \subset \mathcal{A}^{\text{disc}}(G')$. Here, $\mathcal{A}^{\text{disc}}(G)$ and $\mathcal{A}^{\text{disc}}(G')$ denote the spaces of square integrable automorphic forms on $G(\mathbb{A})$ and $G'(\mathbb{A})$ respectively. Assume that π is not 1-dimensional. Then $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi')$ converges and

$$\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi') = \mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi') = 0$$

unless π and π' are cuspidal.

The original motivation was to study the Gan-Gross-Prasad conjecture in the non-tempered case. We also expect an application to the spectral expansion of the relative trace formula of Jacquet-Rallis [4]. In what follows, we will explain the definition of $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}$ and the proof of Theorem 2.

Following Jacquet, Lapid and Rogawski [3], we define $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}$. The construction is based on truncation. Recall that Arthur's truncation is given by

$$\Lambda^T \varphi(g) = \sum_P (-1)^{\dim \mathfrak{a}_P^G} \sum_{\gamma \in P \backslash G} \varphi_P(\gamma g) \hat{\tau}_P(H_P(\gamma g) - T),$$

which is rapidly decreasing. Here, $P = MU$ is a standard parabolic subgroup of G , φ_P is the constant term of φ along P , $\mathfrak{a}_P = \text{Hom}(X^*(M), \mathbb{R})$, $\mathfrak{a}_P^* = X^*(M) \otimes \mathbb{R}$, $\mathfrak{a}_P = \mathfrak{a}_P^G \oplus \mathfrak{a}_G$ is the canonical decomposition, $H_P : G(\mathbb{A}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}_P$ is a function such that $e^{\langle \chi, H_P(m) \rangle} = |\chi(m)|_{\mathbb{A}}$ for $\chi \in X^*(M)$, $m \in M(\mathbb{A})$ and extended by the Iwasawa decomposition, $T \in \mathfrak{a}_0^G = \mathfrak{a}_B^G$ is sufficiently positive with the standard Borel subgroup B , and $\hat{\tau}_P$ is the characteristic function of the obtuse cone in \mathfrak{a}_P spanned by coroots. The integral $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\Lambda^T \varphi \otimes \varphi')$ converges but is hard to compute. Thus we adopt more suitable “mixed truncation” given by

$$\Lambda_m^T \varphi(g) = \sum_P (-1)^{\dim \mathfrak{a}_P^G} \sum_{\gamma \in P \backslash PWG'} \varphi_P(\gamma g) \hat{\tau}_P(H_P(\gamma g) - T),$$

where W is the Weyl group of G .

Lemma 6.

- (1) $\Lambda_m^T \varphi$ is rapidly decreasing on $G'(F) \backslash G'(\mathbb{A})$.
- (2) $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\Lambda_m^T \varphi \otimes \varphi') = \sum_{\lambda} p_{\lambda}(T) e^{\langle \lambda, T \rangle}$, where the right-hand side is a finite sum with $\lambda \in (\mathfrak{a}_{0, \mathbb{C}}^G)^*$ and $p_{\lambda} \in \mathbb{C}[\mathfrak{a}_0]$.

We define

$$\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi') = p_0(T)$$

if the exponents of φ and φ' avoid some finitely many hyperplanes. It turns out that $p_0(T)$ is constant, i.e., independent of T . If $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{\text{cusp}}(G)$, then $\Lambda_m^T \varphi = \varphi$, so that $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi') = \mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi')$. This identity holds more generally if the exponents of φ and φ' satisfy some finitely many negativity conditions. We can define $\mathbf{P}_{\text{reg}}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi'_s)$ for generic s and obtain a meromorphic function of s .

Following Lapid and Rogawski [5], we prove Theorem 2. We may assume that φ is a cuspidal Eisenstein series. We want to unfold $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi')$ by using the Fourier expansion

$$\varphi(g) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{\gamma \in P_i' \backslash G'} W_{Q_i}^{\psi}(\gamma g, \varphi_{Q_i}).$$

Here,

$$Q_i = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} i \\ n+1-i \end{matrix} \right\} \subset G,$$

$$P'_i = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & \nabla \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} i \\ n-i \end{matrix} \mid \nabla \text{ is upper triangular unipotent} \right\} \subset G',$$

and $W_{Q_i}^\psi$ is the Whittaker function for the GL_{n+1-i} part. If $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G)$, then only the term $i = 0$ survives. Since $P'_0 = N'$ and $W_{Q_0}^\psi = W^\psi$, we can unfold $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\varphi \otimes \varphi')$ to get $I(s, \varphi, \varphi')$. In general, we cannot unfold. Instead, we compute the convergent integral $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\theta_\phi \otimes \varphi')$ in two ways. Here, $\phi(\lambda) = f(\lambda) \cdot \varphi$ for $\lambda \in (\mathfrak{a}_{P, \mathbb{C}}^G)^*$ with $f \in \mathcal{PW}((\mathfrak{a}_{P, \mathbb{C}}^G)^*)$ and $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}_P^{\mathrm{cusp}}(G)$, θ_ϕ is a pseudo Eisenstein series given by

$$\theta_\phi(g) = \int_{\Re \lambda = \kappa} f(\lambda) E(g, \varphi, \lambda) d\lambda$$

with sufficiently positive $\kappa \in (\mathfrak{a}_P^G)^*$ and an Eisenstein series

$$E(g, \varphi, \lambda) = \sum_{\gamma \in P \backslash G} \varphi(\gamma g) e^{\langle \lambda, H_P(\gamma g) \rangle}.$$

We can show that

$$\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\theta_\phi \otimes \varphi'_s) = \int_{\Re \lambda = \kappa} f(\lambda) \mathbf{P}_{\mathrm{reg}}^{G'}(E(\varphi, \lambda) \otimes \varphi'_s) d\lambda$$

under some mild condition of f . We can unfold $\mathbf{P}^{G'}(\theta_\phi \otimes \varphi'_s)$ to get

$$\int_{\Re \lambda = \kappa} f(\lambda) I(s, E(\varphi, \lambda), \varphi') d\lambda + \sum_{i=1}^n \cdots,$$

where the last sum vanishes under another mild condition of f . The upshot is

$$\int_{\Re \lambda = \kappa} f(\lambda) \mathbf{P}_{\mathrm{reg}}^{G'}(E(\varphi, \lambda) \otimes \varphi'_s) d\lambda = \int_{\Re \lambda = \kappa} f(\lambda) I(s, E(\varphi, \lambda), \varphi') d\lambda$$

for sufficiently many f which allows us to extract the desired identity.

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